

Listing of the Claims:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method of testing software, comprising:

providing software under testing;

providing a script to a test controller, wherein the script includes a plurality of messages and each of the plurality of messages has a message component and a data component;

communicating each of the plurality of messages in the script, by the test controller, under direction of the message component of each of the plurality of messages to a corresponding one of a plurality of simulators simulating an application that communicates with the software under testing; and

testing the software by the simulator performing the script; and

displaying a result of the testing.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim-~~14~~ 13, wherein the message component ~~of the script~~ directs the corresponding one of the plurality simulators to wait to receive a response from the software being tested.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim-~~14~~ 13, wherein the message component ~~of the script~~ directs the corresponding one of the plurality simulators to transmit at least a component of the data to the software.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A system for testing software, comprising:

- a test scenario operable to maintain a message having a script portion and a data portion;
- a simulator to simulate an application in communication with the software to be tested;
- a test controller operable to obtain the message from the test scenario and communicate at least a portion of the message to the simulator, wherein a portion of the script portion designates the direction of communication between the simulator and the software to be tested; and
- a tool to develop ~~at least a~~ the script portion of the message and provide the ~~at least script~~ portion of the message to the test scenario.

19. (Original) The system of Claim 18, wherein the simulator simulates the application to test the software by utilizing the portion of the message.

20-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim-~~21~~ 18, wherein a portion of the script portion of the message is associated with an identification of the simulator.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim-~~21~~ 18, wherein a portion of the script portion includes an expected value.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim-~~21~~ 18, wherein a portion of the script portion includes a delay between execution of the message and a second message.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim-~~20~~ 18, wherein the tool is also operable to develop the data portion of the message by associating a data object with the data portion of the message.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim-~~20~~ 18, wherein the tool is also operable to develop the data portion of the message by receiving test data.

28. (Original) The system of Claim 27, wherein the simulator is operable such that the test data is passed by the simulator to the software to be tested.

29. (Original) The system of Claim 27, wherein the simulator is operable such that the test data is compared by the simulator to data received from the software to be tested.

30. (Original) The system of Claim 18, wherein the messages each include an instruction component and wherein the simulator is operable to receive the message from the test controller and execute the instruction component simulating the application in communication with the software to test the software.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 18, wherein the system further includes a second simulator and wherein the tool is operable to develop a plurality of messages in a manner

such that the test controller promotes execution of the plurality of messages by at least one of the simulator and second simulator in a substantially sequential manner.

32. (Original) The system of Claim 18, wherein the system further includes a second simulator and wherein the tool is operable to develop a plurality of messages in a manner such that the test controller promotes execution of the plurality of messages by at least one of the simulator and second simulator in a substantially consecutive manner.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 18, wherein the tool is operable to develop the messages as [[a]] reusable objects.

35. (Original) The system of Claim 34, wherein the tool is operable to change the order by which the plurality of messages is executed without modifying a content of the message.

36. (Original) The system of Claim 34, wherein the tool is operable to adjust a position of one or more of the plurality of message in the test scenario and thereby change the order by which the plurality of messages are executed.

37. (Original) The system of Claim 18, where in the software is further defined as a software component.

38. (Original) The system of Claim 18, where in the software is further defined as an application.

39. (New) A system for testing software, comprising:

a test scenario operable to maintain a message;

a simulator to simulate an application in communication with the software to be tested;

a test controller operable to obtain the message from the test scenario and communicate at least a portion of the message to the simulator; and

a tool to develop at least a portion of the message and provide the at least portion of the message to the test scenario, wherein the tool is operable to develop a plurality of messages and provide the plurality of messages to the test scenario in a manner such that the test controller promotes execution of a portion of the plurality of messages in a substantially sequential manner and a portion of the plurality of messages in a substantially consecutive manner.

40. (New) The system of claim 39, wherein the simulator executes a first portion of the portion of the plurality of messages that are executed in the substantially sequential manner and at least a second simulator executes a remaining portion of the portion of the plurality of messages that are executed in the substantially sequential manner, and wherein the portion of the plurality of messages that are executed in the substantially consecutive manner includes each of the first portion and the remaining portion.

41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the simulator executes the first portion in the substantially consecutive manner and at least the second simulator executes the remaining portion in the substantially consecutive manner.

42. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein at least one of the first portion and the remaining portion are executed by the simulator and at least the second simulator in a substantially concurrent manner.

43. (New) The system of Claim 39, wherein the simulator simulates the application to test the software by utilizing the portion of the message.

44. (New) The system of Claim 39, wherein the message is further defined as having a script portion and a data portion

45. (New) The system of Claim 39, wherein the tool is operable to develop the script portion of the message.

46. (New) The system of Claim 45, wherein a portion of the script portion of the message is associated with an identification of the simulator.

47. (New) The system of Claim 45, wherein a portion of the script portion designates the direction of communication between the simulator and the software to be tested.

48. (New) The system of Claim 45, wherein a portion of the script portion includes an expected value.

49. (New) The system of Claim 45, wherein a portion of the script portion includes a delay between execution of the message and a second message.

50. (New) The system of Claim 44, wherein the tool is operable to develop the data portion of the message by associating a data object with the data portion of the message or by receiving test data.

51. (New) The system of Claim 50, wherein the simulator is operable such that the test data is passed by the simulator to the software to be tested.

52. (New) The system of Claim 50, wherein the simulator is operable such that the test data is compared by the simulator to data received from the software to be tested.

53. (New) The system of Claim 39, wherein the messages each include an instruction component and wherein the simulator is operable to receive the message from the test controller and execute the instruction component simulating the application in communication with the software to test the software.

54. (New) The system of Claim 39, wherein the tool is operable to develop the messages as reusable objects.

55. (New) The system of Claim 54, wherein the tool is operable to change the order by which the plurality of messages is executed without modifying a content of the message.

56. (New) The system of Claim 54, wherein the tool is operable to adjust a position of one or more of the plurality of message in the test scenario and thereby change the order by which the plurality of messages are executed.